Page 9, line 20 change "act" to --acts--.

Page 10, equation 12, change first occurrence of "I1" to --I--

Page 11, line 10, change "requirement" to --requirements--.

Page 11, line 10, change "is" to --are--.

Page 11, line 10, change "he" to --the--.

Page 11, line 11, change "305" to --304--.

Page 11, line 13, change "306" to --305--.

Page 12, line 6, change "burred" to --blurred--.

Page 12, line 11, change "blur" to --blurring--.

Page 12, line 12, change "date" to --data--.

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In the Drawings:

Please amend the original Fig. 3 of the drawings in the above-identified application as indicated in red on the attached replacement page.

In the Claims:

1. A method of composing an image from a plurality of images, comprising:

inputting a plurality of the images containing the same objects;

determining a relative position between two of the images based upon a predetermined set of movements;

determining at least one common in-focus area between the two images;

determining an amount of difference in focus in the one common in-focus area between the two images; and

composing an image from the two inputted images based upon the above determined amount of the difference in focus.

B

7. A system for composing an image from a plurality of images, comprising:

an input unit for inputting a plurality of the images containing the same objects; and

a processing unit connected to said input unit for determining a relative position between two of the images based upon a predetermined set of movements, said processing unit determining at least one common in-focus area between the two images,

said processing unit determining an amount of difference in focus in the one common in-focus area between the two images, said processing unit composing an image from the two inputted images based upon the above determined amount of the difference in focus.

13. A computer program containing instructions for performing acts of composing an image from a plurality of images, the acts comprising:

inputting a plurality of the images containing the same objects;

determining a relative position between two of the images;

determining at least one common in-focus area between the two images based upon a predetermined set of movements;

determining an amount of difference in focus in the one common in-focus area between the two images; and

composing an image from the two inputted images based upon the above determined amount of the difference in focus.

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Please add claims 15 through 27 as follows:

15. A method of composing an image from a plurality of images, comprising:

inputting a plurality of the images containing the same objects;

determining a relative position between two of the images;

determining at least one common in-focus area between the two images;

dividing each of the inputted images into a predetermined number of blocks;

summing pixel values of each of the blocks for each of the inputted images;

determining a difference in the summed pixel values between a corresponding pair of the blocks of the inputted images;

selecting a block having a largest amount of the difference in the summed pixel values as the common in-focus area;

determining an amount of difference in focus in the one common in-focus area between the two images; and

composing an image from the two inputted images based upon the above determined amount of the difference in focus.

16 15
18. The method of composing an image according to claim 17 wherein the common in-focus area is user-adjustable.

17 15
19. The method of composing an image according to claim 17 wherein the focus difference determination further comprising:

iteratively low-pass filtering the common in-focus area of one of the inputted images;

determining whether or not the low-pass filtered common in-focus area substantially matches the common in-focus area of another inputted images; and

determining the amount of the focus difference in the one common in-focus area between the two images based upon a number of the iterative low-pass filtering.

18 17
20. The method of composing an image according to claim 19 wherein the amount of the focus difference is user-adjustable.

19 17
21. The method of composing an image according to claim 19 wherein the amount of the focus difference is expressed in a blurring function.

20
22. A system for composing an image from a plurality of images, comprising:

an input unit for inputting a plurality of the images containing the same objects; and

a processing unit connected to said input unit for determining a relative position between two of the images, said processing unit determining at least one common in-focus area between the two images, said processing unit dividing each of the inputted images into a predetermined number of blocks, said processing unit summing pixel values of each of the blocks for each of the inputted images, said processing unit determining a difference in the summed pixel values between a corresponding pair of the blocks of the inputted images, said processing unit selecting a block having a largest amount of the difference in the summed pixel values as the one common in-focus area, said processing unit determining an amount of difference in focus in the one common in-focus area between the two images, said processing unit composing an image from the two inputted images based upon the above determined amount of the difference in focus.

21 20
~~23~~. The system for composing an image according to claim ~~22~~ wherein the common in-focus area is user-adjustable.

22 21
~~24~~. The system for composing an image according to claim ~~23~~ wherein said processing unit iteratively applies a low-pass filter to the common in-focus area of one of the inputted images, said processing unit determining whether or not the low-pass filtered common in-focus area substantially matches the common in-focus area of another inputted images, said processing unit determining the amount of the focus difference in the one common in-focus area between the two images based upon a number of the iterative low-pass filtering.

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23 22
~~25~~. The system for composing an image according to claim ~~24~~ wherein the amount of the focus difference is user-adjustable.

24 22
~~26~~. The system for composing an image according to claim ~~24~~ wherein the amount of the focus difference is expressed in a blurring function.

25
~~27~~. A computer program containing instructions for performing acts of composing an image from a plurality of images, the acts comprising:

inputting a plurality of the images containing the same objects;

determining a relative position between two of the images;

determining at least one common in-focus area between the two images;

dividing each of the inputted images into a predetermined number of blocks;

summing pixel values of each of the blocks for each of the inputted images;

determining a difference in the summed pixel values between a corresponding pair of the blocks of the inputted images;

selecting a block having a largest amount of the difference in the summed pixel values as the common in-focus area;

determining an amount of difference in focus in the one common in-focus area between the two images; and